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"God, has Sharon lost her mind? Is she telling the truth? How dramatic this is!"

"I can't believe it. It's bad enough that Victor usually runs rampant on campus, but to think he caused a girl to have an abortion?"

"Sharon is at fault, too, isn't she? She's Winona's best friend, how could she steal her boyfriend?"

"I think they're both in the wrong,"

That's true.

"This is absolutely insane. Sharon actually exposed something like this; she must have given up on everything."

Winona's face turned pale at Sharon's words as she turned to look at Victor.

Victor looked extremely grim. He had never expected Sharon to reveal their relationship in front of so many people; he thought she was truly crazy.

When Victor ho**d up with Sharon, it was just for fun; he never imagined she would get pregnant one day. Although she had an abortion, Sharon clung to him afterward. In truth, his novelty toward her had long faded, but because she was always around Winona, Victor didn't have the opportunity to cut ties.

Victor quickly grabbed Winona and tried to explain. "Winona, it was this b**h who seduced me! I was just drunk. Please forgive me, okay?"

Sharon laughed and pointed at Victor. "You say I seduced you? Sure, maybe I could seduce you once or twice, but come on, you've slept with me plenty of times over the past two years. Ha ha..

Victor was completely at a loss for words. Winona's tears flowed uncontrollably. Part of her reaction was pure drama, yet a small part of it was sincere. She loved Victor, albeit a little. Winona always loved herself the most.

She had long been aware, or perhaps had accepted, Victor's wandering ways; such behavior was quite common in their circle. Yet having Victor's cheating exposed publicly was aunajor blow to her pride. Deep down, Winona was upset because her self-esteem had been shattered.

"Why? She's my best friend... why would she do this?" After saying this, Winona ran out in tears.

As Winona passed Jeremiah, she slowed her steps intentionally and cast a red-eyed glance in his direction, feeling pitiful. But seeing him still focused on Yvette only fueled her jealousy. Victor chased after Winona, desperately trying to catch up to her.

Quietly, Bonnie leaned over to Yvette and said, "Yve, isn't this like a game of tag? How boring!"

Yvette chuckled softly, finding Bonnie's thought rather unique. Andrew couldn't help but laugh as well; Bonnie's comments were just too amusing. He made a mental note of her name, thinking the name Bonnie was cute,

When Bonnie heard someone laughing at her, she looked up to find the source: one of the guys who had defended Yvette earlier. She politely similed at him before shooting him a glare. Her father had taught her that it was important to engage in manners first before showing any aggression.

Andrew found this amusing. They continued to glare at each other like a couple of little kids, which others might have considered silly, but they found joy in the playful confrontation.

Sharon sat alone, sobbing uncontrollably; no one approached to offer comfort.

"Apologize, Yvette said.

Hearing these two words, Sharon instinctively muttered, Tm sorry. As soon as she realized who had spoken, she immediately lowered her head in shame.

A self-deprecating laugh escaped her lips. She felt utterly stripped of dignity. In her futile attempt to elevate herself by stepping on Yvette, she had lost everything instead.

"Take this," Yvette's voice remained cold. Sharon looked up to see Yvette standing before her, offering a tissue, which caused her tears to flow even more heavily.

Yvette radiated a wild, carefree bravado that made Sharon realize why she had ever felt the need to challenge her. It wasn't just about forcing Victor to apologize or Winona's feelings; it was because Yvette embodied everything that Sharon yearned for yet could never attain, igniting her jealousy.

As Yvette extended the tissue to her, a fleeting hope crossed Sharon's mind: perhaps if she pleaded with Yvette, she would let it go. Yvette. I'm sorry. Please spare us!" Sharon begged.

Yvette turned away from her, her slender figure momentarily pausing. She felt disappointed by Sharon's actions. "No, you have to face the consequences of your mistakes," she replied.

Yvette's words felt like cold water splashed across Sharon's face, awakening her to the absurdity of her actions. She realized that Yvette had no reason to forgive her; everything was of her own making.

At that moment. Sharon finally came to a complete awakening. Watching Yvette begin to walk away, she wiped her tears fiercely and cried out hoarsely. "I'm sorry, Yvette. We will leave Seacrity"

Without looking back, Yvette continued on her path. Jeremiah said nothing as he followed her out. Andrew, Bonnie, and John also chose to leave, while Tobias hesitated for a moment, glancing back at Simon, and then left.

Simon sighed, turning to Sharon in a serious tone. "You should go home. Life is about walking the right path; once your stray, it's hard to return. I hope this teaches you a lesson; be a better person in the future."

Numbly, Sharon nodded and left the auditorium. She knew she was wrong, even if it was too late. Simon had pending matters to attend to, and after directing Patrick to handle the follow-up, he left as well.

Once outside, Yvette pulled out her black phone and sent a text message to an unnamed, unfamiliar number before continuing forward.

Jeremiah caught up with Yvette, who looked radiant in the sunlight, her delicate profile illuminated with an unexpected warmth.

"My subordinates didn't even have time to act before someone inoved against the Sullivan family," he remarked.

"I'm hungry; and there's no candy left, Yvette replied.

A hint of amusement flickered in Jeremiah's eyes. He nodded. "Let's go. I made a reservation at that steakhouse. We can talk about the candy later

Yvette shot him a glance, agreeing eagerly. She was excited to indulge in more steaks. If Eagle King were present, he would undoubtedly be furious. The candy seemed priceless to him while Jeremiah was exchanging it for mere steaks.

"Keep up" Jeremiah instructed. Andrew, Bonnie, and the others followed Yvette and Jeremiah, instinctively maintaining a respectful distance. It was clear that Jeremials was no ordinary person; his icy demeanor intimidated them.

"Hey, is that guy your brother? Bonnie whispered to Andrew.

Andrew shook his head mysteriously. "Nope."

Bonnie rubbed her nose in confusion. "Really? I thought you two were brothers. Are you that close with your other friends.

Andrew quickly said, "No way! Jeremiah is different from everyone else.

Tobias felt hesitant to break the silence, knowing that Tobias was his mentor. Although Tobias was usually warm and approachable, John felt a bit awkward being so close to him for the first time.

John trailed behind them, with John glancing at Tobias, who remained silent, appearing deep in thought. John

Feeling extremely uncomfortable, John wondered whether he should say anything at all. Watching Bonnie and Andrew chatting animatedly ahead, he hoped they might notice and save him from the embarrassment.

Before long, they arrived at the steakhouse. Jeremiah's reserved room was located on the second floor, while the first floor had an open layout.

The steakhouse was ordinary in its decor, somewhat aged, yet the dishes here were exceptional. Many people from high society frequented the establishment, drawn by its delicious offerings. The owner was peculiar, refusing to allow takeout; customers could only enjoy their meals on-site.

Despite this strict policy, the restaurant remained bustling with patrons day after day.

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Once they were seated, the atmosphere was notably awkward for the three who weren't Yvette, Jeremiah, or Andrew.

Tobias hesitated as he sank into his chair, regretting his decision to join the group. He hadn't realized he'd be tagging along for a student's meal, and now it felt a bit uncomfortable.

Bonnie had intended to sit next to Yvette, but Jeremiah shot her warning look.

Before she could settle into her seat, she awkwardly wiped the chair with her hand, then pretended everything was fine and sat down across from Yvette, casting a longing glance her way. She didn't have the courage to confront Jeremiah, so she reluctantly distanced herself from Yvette.

When the waiter knocked and entered, he astutely handed the menu to Jeremiah. Jeremiah took it and naturally passed it to Yvette. She casually accepted it and then turned to Tobias, politely asking, "Mr. Sunderland, what would you like to eat?"

Tobias smiled and replied that Yvette could order whatever she liked. Nodding in acknowledgment, Yvette nearly ordered everything on the menu. Jeremiah and Andrew were already used to this; during their last visit, they had ordered a similar amount, only for Yvette to finish it all by herself.

Bonnie, assuming Yvette was trying to ensure they wouldn't go hungry, quickly said, "Yve, we can't eat this much!"

Yvette looked up, handed the menu back to the server, and said nonchalantly, I ordered all this for myself. You can order whatever you want."

John, who was in the middle of taking a sip of water, nearly spat it out upon hearing her words. It dawned on him that Yvette planned to consume all that food by herself, and the sheer volume of it left him utterly shocked.

"Ms. Zeller, are you sure you can eat all these dishes?" Tobias asked.

Yvette lowered her head slightly, contemplating the question seriously before nodding. "Sure I can; the food isn't that much."

Tobias was taken aback. He glanced at the long list on the menu, momentarily at a loss for words, and finally managed an awkward laugh. "Well, having a big appetite is a good thing"

Yve, you really have quite the appetite," said Bonnie. Andrew nodded in agreement.

Bonnie felt a pang of envy. Yvette's hearty appetite was something she could only admire, especially since she herself had to deal with chronic enteritis, which meant she could rarely eat much, particularly spicy food.

As the waiter stepped out, an embarrassing silence settled over the private room. Yvette lounged lazily in her chair, her coat tossed aside. Her eyes seemed misty, and whenever Jeremiah glanced down, he could see the fair skin of her collarbone peeking out from beneath her shirt, which made him feel slightly awkward.

Jeremiah awkwardly cleared his throat, startling the others. It wasn't because they were timid, but because Jeremiah's presence was so intimidating. Tobias, in his thirties, felt like a schoolboy in front of Jeremiah. It reminded him of how he felt when facing a teacher in his childhood, which was somewhat embarrassing

Andrew sympathized with those present. Many people were afraid of Jeremiah; even the big shots from Betrico were cautious around him, let alone two college students and an ordinary professor. Therefore, Andrew decided to lighten the mood.

"Hey. Jeremalt, why did the Sunrise Group suddenly take action Andrew asked. He knew Jeremiah had invested in various companies but had never heard of any connection between Jeremiah and Sunrise Group.

Bonnie, John, and Tobias immediately started eavesdropping. They were also curious about what had led to the sudden collapse of the Sullivan family.

Jeremiah lowered his head, a hint of warmth appearing in his eyes. He glanced at Yvette, and his deep gaze met hers. Yvette raised an eyebrow but said nothing.

Jeremiah's voice was low and affectionate. "It wasn't me. My subordinates were intercepted."

Andrew asked loudly, "How could it not be you? The Sunrise Group is in Betrico, where far from here. How could they know about this so quickly and act so ruthlessly?"

Tobias and the others looked puzzled, unsure who else might have the capability to pull this off. They all looked at Yvette. Yvette sipped her coffee slowly. "Why are you looking at me?

Bonnie leaned forward cautiously and asked, "Yve, do you have any connection with the Sunrise Group?"

Yvette calmly touched her chin and shook her head. "Nope."

Andrew didn't believe that Yvette could have any connection with Sunrise Group. Sunrise Group was the largest tech company in the country, while Yvette was just a student at Argrol University.

He suspected that Jeremiah was hiding his actions. Jeremiah's silent support for Yvette surprised Andrew; he had never known that Jeremiah knew his way around girls.

"Hey, what connection could Yvette have with the Sunrise Group? What are you all thinking? I've met their general manager, who is old enough to be Yvette's father. Do you think Yvette is the secret chairwoman or something? Bonnie, your imagination is running wild."

Tobias and John, hearing Andrew's comment, felt they had overthought the situation. From Andrew's words, it was clear he had met the Sunrise Group's general manager. Thus, they were more convinced that Jeremiah was not an ordinary man.

Andrew deferred to Jeremiah completely. If Andrew looked down upon the Lewis family, it was evident that Jeremiah would think even less of them.

Bonnie also thought it unlikely that Yvette had any connection with the Sunrise Group, but couldn't resist countering Andrew. She and Andrew seemed to be natural adversaries.

"How do you know? What if Yve is actually the chairwoman behind Sunrise Group? She's just low–profile, unlike you," Bonnie said.

Jeremiah glanced thoughtfully at Yvette, Yvette ignored Jeremiah's gaze and focused on playing a game on her phone.

Bonnie took a quick look and couldn't understand the game Yvette was playing. The game's interface was in a language and looked like a competitive type.

foreign

The game Yvette was playing was actually a new online game by Sunrise Group, but it was still in beta and had not been released to the public

As Andrew was about to shoot back, the waiter knocked on the door, interrupting his argument with Bonnie. After all the dishes they ordered were served, the table was full. Jeremiah placed all the spicy food closest to Yvette.

No one noticed Jeremiah's actions except for Yvette, who was aware of his intention. She liked spicy food. Seeing Jeremiah's gesture, Yvette paused for a moment while preparing her dipping sauce, then casually speared a piece of meat with her fork.

As usual, Jeremiah ate very little. After Yvette finished each plate of food, he would pass her additional dishes that she liked. The others at the table, sitting across from Yvette and Jeremiah, didn't bother them and focused on their own steaks.

Tobias glanced at the caviar in front of him and found he had lale appetite. The young couple's sweet romance made his own food seem less enjoyable.

John felt a twinge of bitterness. Yvette was so beautiful and talented that he had long known he was not worthy of her; only a man like Jeremiah deserved to stand by her side. However, he quickly reconciled with this thought. Life was not just about romance, but also about friendship. He was willing to stay by Yvette's side as a friend.

Everyone was once again astonished by Yvette's large appetite as they watched her gradually finish all the food she ordered.

Suddenly, there was a knock at the door. When the waiter entered, he respectfully bowed to Jeremiah. "Mr. Chavez, Mr. Langford from the private dining room opposite asked me to check if you have time and if it would be convenient for him to come over and see you."

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Jeremiah put his food aside. Without even looking up, he said coldly, "Uh-hum."

The waiter didn't know what he meant. Since Jeremiah looked too intimidating, he dared not ask him again. He looked at Andrew as if asking for help!

The waiter remembered that Jeremiah, Yvette and Andrew had come here together last time. Jeremiah and Yvette both looked cold and unapproachable, though very attractive. He fell anxious and dared not ask too many questions.

Moreover, the person requesting to see Jeremiah was the mayor of Seacrity, who frequently appeared on news channels. Even the mayor had to send someone to inquire if Jeremiah was available, leaving the waiter almost too intimidated to guess Jeremiah's identity.

Seeing the waiter's pleading look, Andrew decided to respond on Jeremiah's behalf. He felt like he might as well be asking Jeremiah for a paycheck at this rate.

Jeremiah is available. Have him come over." Andrew said.

The waiter finally breathed a sigh of relief. He had been worried that if Jeremiah refused, the mayor might direct his frustration at him.

After the waiter left, Andrew complained to Jeremiah, Jeremiah, could you be a bit more approachable? Can't you see you scared the waiter so much that he was afraid to speak?"

Jeremiah gave him a glance and continued eating with his usual limpassive expression. Andrew could only give up.

Bonnie, noticing Andrew's discomfort, snickered quietly to herself. When Andrew caught her, she flashed him a teasing smile. Frustrated, Andrew could only vent his irritation on his food. He hadn't expected that even Bonnie had found an opportunity to mock him.

prepared

After dinner, Yvette needed to return to finish the assignment Tobias had left. She stood up, thanked Jeremiah, and to leave. Bonnie, John, and Tobias, who had finished eating earlier, quickly gathered their things and readied their bags to leave with her.

At that moment, Jeremiah stopped Yvette. "Wait. I'd like to introduce you to someone."

Yvette considered it for a moment and then sat back down. The others, not wanting to leave before Jeremiah had finished, also stayed. After all, Jeremiah had paid for the meal, and it seemed improper to leave before he had.

Wyatt was dining out with the Seacrity Chamber of Commerce today. Although big shots like them typically wouldn't choose a steakhouse like this, this particular one was owned by Wyatt's sister—in—law.

Since she spent most of her time abroad and rarely returned, the restaurant was usually managed by Wyatt's wife, providing a more private setting.

As the mayor of Seacrity, Wyatt's presence would always create a stir, so he had specifically requested his secretary to arrange for dinner at this steakhouse. To his surprise, he saw Jeremiah and Andrew there, which delighted him.

Since the last incident, Jeremiah had only visited his office once and had not been seen again. Wyatt had been hesitant to disturb or seek him out, fearing to offend someone known for his ruthless methods in Betrico,

However, now that they had run into each other, Wyatt was eager to find an opportunity to get close to Jeremiah. Wyatt planned to return to Betrico in the future. Building a good relationship with Jeremiah would be beneficial. It would be much harder to approach Jeremiah once he was back in Betrico.

In Wyatt's private dining room, the beads of the Lewis family, the Chambers family, and the Smith family were all present. However, the Carter family sent Rebecca, as Robert's influence within the family had already been diminished.

At the table, the four appeared to be getting along harmoniously, Rebecca and Zachary seemed to be enjoying themselves, as if Yvette had never forced Victor to apologize. They tacitly avoided discussing the incident, knowing that their primary purpose for being here was to advance their own family's interests, and there was no need to create any unpleasantness. Seeing Wyatt preparing to leave, they were concerned that they had somehow offended the mayor and quickly stood up. "Mr. Langford, did we do something wrong? Why are you leaving so soon?"

Yes, please stay a bit longer. We'd love to hear more of your advice?

Indeed. A word from you is worth more than ten years of study

Their flattery was evident. Wyatt smiled, but then turned serious. He understood that some relationships need to be handled with care, considering the historical issues of political and business entanglements.

As the mayor of Seacrity, he had been cautious about this. Seacrity was merely a stepping stone for him, and he couldn't afford any blemishes on his record before returning to Betrico.

Despite receiving numerous gifts from Seacrity's four major families, Wyatt had never accepted them nor explicitly sided with any family.

The invitation to this dinner was to discuss the upcoming commercial development, with each party hoping to gain a share. Wyatt, ever shrewd, enjoyed his meal and drinks without making any promises before preparing to leave.

Zachary, Rebecca, and the others were not ready to give up and sought to glean more information.

"Sorry, everyone. I've run into an acquaintance and really need to go now. Please enjoy the rest of your meal. As for the commercial development plans, the government will issue a public tender. Just try your best," Wyatt said.

With this, Zachary and the others had no choice but to let Wyatt go, watching as he departed.

Rebecca stared thoughtfully at the direction Wyatt had gone. It didn't seem like he was just making an excuse to leave; he appeared genuinely eager to meet someone. She was curious about who could be important enough for the mayor to rush

of 10 sec.

Zachary approached and interrupted Rebecca's thoughts. "Rebecca, how have you been lately?"

Rebecca turned to him with a cold smile, her tone somewhat unfriendly. "Mr. Chambers, of course, I haven't been well. After all, I've lost 160 million dollars. Your daughter is quite something; she even forced my brother to apologize in person. It seems our families' marriage arrangement displeases her!"

Zachary was taken aback. To be honest, he admired Rebecca for her courage, determination, and intelligence. He didn't understand why she was being so harsh and irrational today.

In fact, Rebecca's reaction was understandable. This was the first major setback she had faced since taking over the company, and their network security system was still inadequate.

The virus was so sophisticated that even international teams struggled to handle with it. She had received considerable criticism from Claude over the issue, leaving her with a lot of pent—up frustration. Zachary had just become her outlet for that frustration today.

Zachary was confused. He knew Yvette had forced Victor to apologize, but he didn't see how the 160 million dollars loss was related to him.

"Rebecca, Yvette did act inappropriately and embarrassed Victor but how does the 160 million dollar loss relate to the Chambers family? That's not a joke to be taken lightly," Zachary said.

Rebecca studied Zachary closely, confirming that he genuinely new nothing about the situation. If he had known about the top hacker behind Yvette, he wouldn't have sent her away to stay in a dorm.

Suddenly, Rebecca's expression changed as a realization hit her. Her earlier gloom lifted, and her tone became much warmer.

"Sorry, Mr. Chambers. I was just so upset that I said something stupid. Please don't mind it. I'll visit you when I have time." she said, then picked up her handbag and left.

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Wyatt entered after knocking on the door, only to see Jeremiah banding Yvette a tissue. He was shocked by the scene.

Jeremiah was known for his aloofness with women, and in Betrico, many socialites admired him from afar. During his time. in Betrico, Wyatt had never heard of Jeremiah being involved with any young women, so he was curious about Yvette's background.

Yvette was indeed striking, but her casual demeanor suggested she wasn't from a prestigious family.

Wyatt quickly put aside his curiosity about Yvette. Regardless of who she was, it wasn't his place to inquire.

Besides Andrew, everyone else present appeared to be ordinary people, and they seemned quite young.

As soon as Wyatt entered. Tobias stared at him in shock. When he finally regained his senses, he stood up abruptly, banging his knee against the edge of the table, wincing in pain. John and the other jumped at Tobias' reaction, looking at him in confusion. Even Yvette glanced over.

"Mr. Langford!" Tobias asked, visibly astonished.

Wyatt, looking warm and friendly, seemed a world away from his earlier demeanor with Zachary and Rebecca. Jeremiah, what a coincidence running into you here."

Jeremiah, still looking at Yvette, casually replied, "Yes, I'm here having dinner with friends."

Andrew, with a grin, asked, "Mr. Langford, you're not following us, are you?"

Wyatt quickly denied it, his tone anxious, afraid of being mistaken for a stalker. "No, absolutely not. This restaurant is owned by my sister—in—law. She's rarely here, so the

place is managed by my wife. I was invited to dinner here to avoid trouble, and running into Jeremiah and you was purely coincidental.

Andrew chuckled. "I was just joking, Mr. Langford, you look so nervous."

Wyatt was nearly unnerved by Andrew's comment; the joke wasn't amusing to him at all.

Jeremiah, however, didn't suspect that Wyatt had been deliberately following him. He trusted that Wyatt wouldn't risk having someone investigate his whereabouts, and believed that Wyatt wasn't foolish enough to do such things.

After greeting Jeremiah, Wyatt turned to Tobias, who had clearly recognized him. "Hello, I'm Wyatt Langford. May I know your name?"

Tobias was taken aback, hardly believing that the Mayor of Seacrity was standing before him so graciously. Nervously, he replied, "Hello, Mr. Langford. I'm Tobias Sunderland, a physics professor at Argrol University. I had the pleasure of meeting you once during a seminar with the university president."

Wyatt was surprised to find that Jeremiah's company included a university professor. "Please, sit down. Don't let my presence disrupt your dinner with Jeremiah. I just came by to say hello and will be leaving soon

Wyatt knew the importance of knowing when to step back and showed tact in his conversation. While chatting Jeremiah and Andrew, he also paid attention to John and Bonnie After learning they were students at Argrol University, he encouraged them to continue their studies diligently.

Most of the conversation was dominated by Wyatt, with Jeremiah listening and Andrew interjecting humorously, making the atmosphere quite pleasant. Finally, Wyatt settled the bill with the waiter and exchanged a few more words before leaving-

Throughout the encounter, Tobias, John, and Bonnie were visibly uneasy. Jeremiah and Andrew remained calm, and Yvette looked careless. She merely glanced at Wyatt when she learned his identity before resuming her game on her phone, paying no attention to their conversation.

Bonnie was stunned for a long time after discovering Wyatt's identity. She struggled to understand the topics discussed among Jeremiah, Andrew, and the others, only grasping that the amiable man before her was the Mayor of Seacrity, a prominent figure in the news. For Bonnie, it was the most surreal day.

"Mr. Sunderland, was that really the Mayor? I can't believe I was chatting with him! He even encouraged me to study hard. I feel so lucky!" Bonnie exclaimed.

Andrew tapped Bonnie on the head. "Get over it. He's just a mayor. What's there to be excited about?"

Bonnie, not picking up on Andrew's tone, rubbed her head and said, "Hey, I'm just happy. Can't you see? The mayor said the future of this country depends on young talents like us! Hmph!"

To bolster her point, Bonnie looked at Yvette. "Right, Yve?"

Yvette put away her phone and nodded carelessly, which only made Bonnie more pleased and proud.

Tobias and John, however, were not so naive. They noticed that Wyatt, as mayor, needed to send the waiter to ask if he could meet Jeremiah. His deference and cautious flattery towards Jeremiah were striking.

While Wyant's attitude towards Andrew was also telling, it was clear he treated Andrew as an equal, which was intriguing considering the mayor's high status in Seacrity.

Tobias and John couldn't fathom how Jeremiah and Andrew, two prominent figures, could be involved in roles like library staff at Argrol University.

Rebecca followed Wyatt out and saw him enter the room across the hall Curious about who could warrant such a personal visit from Wyatt, she wondered if there was someone important in Seacrity that she hadn't heard of.

Wyatt's secretary, Janet Miller, was stationed at the door. When she saw Rebecca approaching and peering inside, she understood Rebecca's curiosity. Janet walked over to Rebecca, who greeted her with a friendly smile, hoping to gather some information.

Rebecca approached gracefully, but Janet quickly blocked her path. "Ms. Carter, you can't go any further. Mr. Langford is meeting a private acquaintance, and it's not appropriate for too many people to know about it. I hope you understand."

Rebecca's face momentarily showed embarrassment, but she quickly recovered, flashing a bright smile. "Oh, I'm sorry. I just wanted to use the restroom and noticed you here, so I thought I say hello."

Janet chose not to nail her and smiled back. "You might want to ask the waiter over there"

Realizing that pressing further would only make things awkward Rebecca turned and left. Halfway down the corridor, she paused and said in a playful tone, "Ms. Miller, I hope Mr. Langford doesn't find out about my little detour. It's quite embarrassing."

"Don't worry. I won't mention this minor detail to him," Janet assured her. Rebecca, relieved, then departed

However, as soon as Wyall came out of the room, Janet informed him of Rebecca's visit. Wyatt, displeased with Rebecca's meddling, decided to give her a warning.

Rebecca hadn't anticipated that her attempt to gather information would backfire, resulting in her offending the mayor and The Carter family receiving only a minimal profit from the upcoming business district project.

As Yvette came out of the restroom, she coincidentally encountered a slightly inebriated Zachary. She also saw Lucas, who was here to pick him up.

"Lilian, Lilian, is that you?" Zachary asked.

Yvette paused and looked back at him with lowered eyes, her expression unreadable. Facing Zachary, she remained detached.

Lucas was surprised to run into Yvette at the steakhouse. He calculated that it had been a week since Yvette left the Chambers family. "Hello, Ms. Zeller. Mr. Chambers came here for business and drank too much, so I'm here to take him. home, Lucas said.

Hearing what Lucas said, Zachary sobered up a bit and, recognizing Yvette, felt a pang of guilt. He regretted his hasty decision to send Yvette to the dormitory and had been feeling remorseful for days.

"Yvette, are you dining here too? Zachary asked.

Yvette adjusted her coat and responded coolly, "Yes"

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Yvette's indifference made Zachary heartbroken. He truly didn't know how to handle this daughter of his.

Zachary rubbed his head, feeling frustrated.

Yvette was ready to walk away.

Zachary quickly said. "Come home. Yvette. I was just angry and

The hair on Yvette's forehead hung down as her brow furrowed slightly with a hint of impatience. Her demeanor was cold. and firm. "No need. The dorm is fine."

Zachary steadied himself, his tone tired. "Yvette, if you don't want to return to the Chambers family, you can stay at the mansion I've given to you. It's..."

Zachary paused, lost in memories. He and Lilian had their happiest times at that mansion. But since she left without saying goodbye, he rarely went there anymore, afraid that the place would bring back emotions.

Yvette looked up. Seeing the sadness in Zachary's eyes annoyed her. To her, it was worthless to show affection now. "If you're done talking. I'm off

Yvette's words pulled Zachary back from his thoughts. That was the place where your mother and I used to live. I'll have Lucas bring you the keys tomorrow."

Yvette didn't respond and turned to leave.

Zachary instructed Lucas to find out what Yvette had ordered. He thought she was with her classmates and wanted to pay

her bill

After ten minutes, Lucas came back looking shocked. He didn't speak for a while.

Zachary sensed something was off and asked, "What's the matter? Did you pay Yvette's bill?"

Lucas hesitated, words stuck in his throat. He needed a moment to organize his thoughts. The news he received was shocking and hard to take in. "Mr. Chambers, I asked the front desk where Miss Yvette was sitting, and they said she was in

the VIP Room."

Zachary sobered up. The VIP Room?

Few people were aware that the steakhouse was owned by Wyatt Zachary only discovered its connection to Wyatt after he unexpectedly saw Wyatt's wife managing the place and did some thorough investigation.

He wondered, We were unable to book the VIP Room, as it was set aside for honored guests. How did Yvette manage to have a meal there?"

Lucas' reply shocked Zachary. "Mr. Chambers, by the time I arrived, someone had already paid ber bill

Zachary asked, "Who?"

Lucas' stern voice was tinged with a slight tremor. "Sir, it was Wyatt!"

Momentarily confused, Zachary asked again, "Who?"

Lucas confidently repeated. "Sir, it was Wyatt, Mr. Langford"

Zachary's eyes widened as he looked at Lucas, whose expression confirmed that the information was indeed true.

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Chapter 45

"How did Yvette get involved with Wyatt?' In a moment, Zachary imagined the worst–case scenario–Yvette had become Wyatt's mistress. Otherwise, he couldn't figure out what kind of relationship they could possibly have.

Zachary was furious as he thought of that. "My daughter is only 20 years old, and Wyatt is much older than she is. How disgraceful!

Lucas initially had the same thought but then reconsidered, finding it unlikely.

He didn't think Yvette was the type to do that. Her pride wouldn't permit her to become anyone's mistress.

Seeing Zachary clutch his chest, Lucas quickly pulled out the medicine he had prepared from his pocket and Zachary, gave it to

After taking the medicine. Zachary felt a little better but still spoke weakly. "Bring Yvette back. I need to speak to her. If she has done anything to disgrace the Chambers family, I won't forgive her."

Lucas felt Zachary was overly worried and losing his composure. He thought, The relationship between Mr. Chambers and Ms. Zeller had already hit rock bottom. If he keeps blaming her without understanding the situation, their father–daughter bond might really be severed"

Lucas said. "Mr. Chambers, I don't think Ms. Zeller would do something like that. I suggest you wait a bit. There might be a misunderstanding.

Zachary looked displeased but couldn't let it go. He took out his phone and called Yvette.

When Yvette returned to the private room, Tobias and the others had left, leaving only Jeremiah, who stared intently at her. His dark eyes were sparkling, his skin was pale, and his voice was husky "You're back, he murmured seductively.

Yvette nodded slightly. "Where are Bon and the others?"

Jeremiah replied, "Andrew gave your friend a ride home, and Mr. Sunderland left with that guy from your class."

"Andrew?" Yvette frowned,

Jeremiah could tell what Yvette was thinking and explained further, "No need to worry. Andrew just runs his mouth. He won't do anything. Your friend is perfectly safe."

Yvette looked at him, puzzled, her tone confused. "Safe? That's not what I meant. I'm worried it might not be safe... for Andrew.

Jeremiah didn't quite understand her words.

Yvette sniffed and spoke slowly. "Bonnie mentioned she tends to act up when she drinks. We just had steak, and I saw her secretly drinking a few glasses. The wine you ordered is pretty strong, so now..."

Yvette didn't need to say the rest; Jeremiah understood it..

Jeremiah stood up, his trousers were straight without a wrinkle. He picked up his coat from the chair and wrapped it around Yvette's shoulders.

Yvette looked up at him, slightly puzzled, as Jeremiah lowered his head slowly. Their eyes met

"Let's go. Andrew knows what to do. No need to worry, Jeremial said.

Yvette glanced sideways at Jeremiah but said nothing

Inside the Jeep, Jeremiah drove while Yvette sat in the passenger seat, texting someone.

"How's your driving?" asked Jeremiah.

Yvette put away her phone. Her voice, with a slight hoarseness after having steak, sounded particularly pleasant. "Not bad?

Jeremiah nodded. "Compared to your Frixyia?"

Yvette thought for a moment and said, "I can't compare. I don't really know Frixyia."

Jeremiah glanced at her. Noticing she pondered seriously before responding, he knew Yvette was telling the truth.

He thought, "Yvette's skill in Frixyia is good enough for her to work as a translator, yet she still claims she doesn't really kno it. Such a mysterious lady!

After that, Jeremiah focused on driving without saying anything further while Yvette closed her eyes to rest.

As they approached the entrance of Argrol University, a phone with a ringtone of a unique piano melody suddenly rang.

Yvette glanced at the phone number and hung up. The caller kept calling persistently. Annoyed, Yvette eventually turned it

off.

When Zachary called again, he got a message notifying him that the phone was turned off, making him so furious that he threw his phone on the ground.

After dropping Yvette off at Argrol University, Jeremiah went to meet Simon. No one knew what they talked about, but Jeremiah became a substitute teather in the physics department the next day.

Early in the morning. Bonnie came to class with two dark circles under her eyes. As usual, when she entered, she saw Yvette lying on the desk, asleep.

People around were whispering, mostly about what happened with Sharon in the auditorium yesterday.

The story about Yvette and Sharon spread around Argrol University again.

Some said Yvette was too harsh, using a guy to bully Sharon and leaving Sharon no way out, calling Yvette cold—hearted and unkind.

Others supported her, saying she did the right thing.

The forums were buzzing, but in reality, no one dared to say anything in front of Yvette after seeing how Sharon was dealt with.

Early that morning. Sharon came to withdraw from school. She didn't stay a minute longer after completing the procedures. Bonnie sat next to Yvette and turned to glare at the people who were whispering.

The girls immediately went silent, not daring to say more. It wasn't Bonnie they were afraid of, but Yvette who backed her up.